

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H. Interim Director

JE FFREY D. GUNZE NHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H. Interim Health Officer

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 708 Los Angeles, California 90012 TEL (213) 240-8156 • FAX (213) 481-2739

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

May 10, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:



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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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May 10, 2016

LORI GLASGOW

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT AND EXECUTE A FORTHCOMING AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT NUMBER EI11-LAC-001 AND FUTURE AWARDS AND/OR AMENDMENTS FROM THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, CALIFORNIA HIV/AIDS RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR THE PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS AND TESTING AND LINKAGES TO CARE PLUS TREATMENT FOR HIV PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2015 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

### **SUBJECT**

Provide authorization to accept and execute a forthcoming amendment and future awards and/or amendments from The Regents of the University of California, California HIV/AIDS Research Program to support the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis and Testing and Linkage to Care plus Treatment for HIV Prevention Demonstration Project for the period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Interim Director of the Department of Public Health (DPH), or her designee, to accept and execute a forthcoming amendment to Agreement Number El11-LAC-001 from The Regents of the University of California, California HIV/AIDS Research Program (CHRP) that provides an anticipated extension of the Agreement end date from March 31, 2016 to September 30, 2017 and provides an amount estimated not to exceed \$75,000 to add heterosexual women as a target population to be served by the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Testing and Linkage to Care plus Treatment (TLC+) for HIV Prevention (PATH) Demonstration Project for the anticipated period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2017, subject to review and approval by County Counsel, and notification to your Board and the Chief Executive Office (CEO).

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2. Delegate authority to the Interim Director of DPH, or her designee, to accept future awards and/or amendments that are consistent with the requirements of the Agreement that extend the term through September 30, 2018, at amounts determined by CHRP; reflect non-material and/or ministerial revisions to the award's terms and conditions; allow for the rollover of unspent funds and/or redirection of funds; adjust the term of the award through March 31, 2019; and/or provide an increase or decrease in funding up to 25 percent above or below each grant term's annual base amount, subject to review and approval by County Counsel, and notification to your Board and the CEO.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of Recommendation 1 will allow DPH to accept forthcoming CHRP funds to add heterosexual women as a new target population to participate in PrEP and TLC+ PATH project activities.

The PATH project incorporates a comprehensive range of innovative interventions and program enhancements that address HIV testing, linkage to HIV care for those who test HIV-positive, identification of HIV-positive individuals who are not in care, longer term retention in care among those initially linked, and the delivery of PrEP or post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) as part of a combination of HIV prevention services. The spectrum of services begins with disease prevention and includes steps to evaluate the safety, acceptability, and feasibility of delivery of PrEP or PEP as part of a combination of HIV prevention services currently targeting high-risk HIV-uninfected Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM) and transgender women.

Recent data suggest that heterosexual women who are candidates for PrEP face a unique set of issues and may require substantially greater levels of adherence to tenofovir/emtricitibine (TDF/FTC) orally to effectively decrease HIV acquisition. Daily oral PrEP with TDF/FTC has been shown to be effective for HIV prevention in randomized control trials of MSM and heterosexual men and heterosexual women at risk for HIV infection; however, some studies in heterosexual women have shown a lack of efficacy that is believed to be attributable to inadequate PrEP adherence. As a result, this project will expand to include heterosexual women as a target population to receive PrEP and/or PEP interventions.

Services for PrEP and improved linkages to care will be provided by seven Consortium members, including four current providers: the University of California, Los Angeles; AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA); the OASIS Clinic/Charles Drew University (Charles Drew); and the Los Angeles LGBT Center (LGBT Center), and three new providers: the University of California, San Diego (UCSD); APLA; and T.H.E. Clinic who will help with targeting heterosexual women.

The additional funds will also allow DPH to continue to provide administrative oversight of current project activities with MSM and transgender women. Four projects: PrEP for MSM and transgender women, Project Engage, the Social Network Testing Project, and the Navigation Program experienced delayed implementation at Charles Drew, LGBT Center, APLA, and the DPH Division of HIV and STD Programs. Therefore, project follow-up activities will continue until mid-May 2016 and will be followed by data analysis and dissemination of project findings by March 31, 2017.

Approval of Recommendation 2 will allow DPH to accept future awards and/or amendments that are consistent with the requirements of the Agreement to extend and/or adjust the term of the award; reflect non-material revisions to terms and conditions; rollover unspent funds and/or redirect funds; and/or provide an increase or decrease in funding up to 25 percent above or below each grant term's

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annual base amount. This recommended action will enable DPH to accept future awards and/or amendments that adjust the project period up to six months beyond the original term, in those instances where there has been an unanticipated extension of the term to allow additional time to complete services and utilize grant funding. This authority is being requested to enhance DPH's efforts to expeditiously maximize grant revenue, consistent with Board Policy 4.070: Full Utilization of Grant Funds.

# **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions support Goal 3, Integrated Services Delivery, of the County's Strategic Plan.

# **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

DPH will accept a forthcoming amendment from CHRP in an amount estimated not to exceed \$75,000 for the anticipated period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2017, to support the continuation and expansion of the PATH project to include heterosexual women as an additional target population.

Funding is included in DPH's fiscal year (FY) 2015-16 Adopted Budget, and will be included in future FYs, as necessary.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

On September 18, 2012, your Board authorized the Director of DPH to accept and execute Agreement Number El11-LAC-001, for the period of April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2016, in the amount of \$1,446,989, to support the PrEP and TLC+PATH Demonstration Project.

On July 18, 2014, DPH exercised delegated authority to accept Amendment Number 1 to Agreement Number EI11-LAC-001 to revise the four-year budget and decrease the total award amount by \$6,480, from \$1,446,989 to \$1,440,509.

On February 1, 2015, CHRP released a Request for Proposals (RFP) in response to new evidence suggesting that heterosexual women can benefit from PrEP/PEP services in California. Eligibility for the RFP was limited to grantees currently conducting PrEP/PEP studies through CHRP. Consortia members explored expanding efforts with researchers at UCSD, and its partner organization, Christie's Place, which provides a continuum of care services to HIV-positive women. The grant application was submitted on March 3, 2015, and a revised application was submitted on May 15, 2015. DPH has confirmed through CHRP's Award Management System that DPH will be awarded funding for the Women's PrEP Project for the period effective October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2017 through an amendment to Agreement Number El11-LAC-001.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of the recommended actions will allow DPH to provide critical HIV prevention, care, and treatment services to heterosexual women, MSM, and male-to-female transgender persons of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to improve health outcomes for residents of Los Angeles County.

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Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Harding, M.P.H.

Cynthia A. Hardiy

Interim Director

CAH:fs #03578

c: Chief Executive Office

**County Counsel** 

Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors